



Fort Mill District Band Booster Club What Do Band Fees Pay For?

To find out more about fees and fundraising, please come to your respective high school band **booster club meetings**. These meetings will keep you informed and up to date; also, check our web site at www.fortmillbands.com, www.fortmillband.com or www.nationfordband.com.

Q. What do the **booster club fund raising projects** pay for?

A. Fundraisers allow the band to function at a competitive level. The funds are divided to reduce the pupil needs, approximately **\$500-\$800 per student per year**, as well as allow each student the opportunity to raise funds to pay individual expenses.

Q. What does the **Fall/BOA (Bands of America) Fee** cover?

A. This covers many expenses to get the marching season up and running, the cost of feeding the students during camp and at all day practices. It is also used to purchase music, have custom arrangements written, publishing rights, marching drill, specialty instruction, medical supplies, and other expenses incurred to put the marching band on the field, uniform dry cleaning, maintenance of the uniforms between cleaning which includes replacement of zippers, shako parts, plumes, lots of "Shout" spot remover, replacement of lost items, etc. Lastly, it also includes transportation to the events, the food served at competitions, expenses to get the trailer to and from competitions, registration fees, and other miscellaneous expenses for travel to and from local competitions.

Q. What does my **instrument fee** pay for?

A. Maintenance of that instrument. The cost to repair the instruments and replace broken parts usually exceeds the rental fee. It would be very difficult for each student to be responsible for maintenance of a school instrument and the cost may overwhelm many parents. Regardless of where a student used one school instrument or several school instruments throughout the year, only one fee is collected. For students using their own personal instruments, no fee is charged and maintenance of their instrument is their responsibility.

Q. My student is in **percussion** and cannot bring their instrument home. Why do I still have to pay an **instrument fee**?

A. Same as above; maintenance. The expenses for percussion parts have exceeded the funds collected for instrument fees every year.

Q. I heard **Carolina Crown** gives percussion all of their instruments free, so why do we have an instrument fee?

A. We are blessed with the use of old Carolina Crown instruments, but nothing is free. We must maintain the instruments and replace parts, etc. – see above.

Q. Why do **BOA (Bands of America)** trips cost more?

A. BOA trips usually requires an overnight stay due to the location of the event like Atlanta, Georgia or Indianapolis, Indiana. The fee includes transportation to the events, the food served at competitions, expenses to get the trailer to and from competitions, registration fees, and other miscellaneous expenses for travel (hotels, etc.) and the competition.

Q. What do I do if I just **cannot afford** these fees?

A. The booster club provides many ways for families to participate in fundraising activities that not only drives the family cost to a minimum to participate in the band program but allows families to earn student credit points that can be used to pay certain band fees. If you find yourself in a difficult financial situation, please contact your band director and a payment schedule may be worked out that works for you and the band program.